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**Barracudas
make splash in
Munich**

Road rules
*Basic risk
management
reduces accidents*

Homeschool advantage
Parents guide children's education



JET 48 Vol. 30 No. 8
Friday, Feb. 28, 2003

Brig. Gen. John T. Brennan
48th Fighter Wing commander

Maj. Francisco G. Hamm
Public affairs chief

Master Sgt. Will Ackerman
Public affairs superintendent

JET 48 STAFF

1st Lt. Chris Watt
*Deputy chief of public affairs
Chief of internal information*

Staff Sgt. Tiffany Jeltema
Editor

Senior Airman Jeff Hamm
Assistant editor

Senior Airman Lynne Neveu
Staff writer

Tabby Casto
Jet 48 intern

HOW TO REACH US

Submissions

Email: jet.48@lakenheath.af.mil

DSN: (314) 226-2151

Fax: 44+(1638) 525637

Phone: 44+(1638) 525640

Editorial office: Jet 48, Unit 5210 Box 215, APO AE 09461

All correspondence should include the writer's full name, address and telephone number and may be edited for clarity and space.

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48th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Mail: 48FW/PA, Unit 5210 Box 215, APO AE 09461

Email: 48fw.pa@lakenheath.af.mil

Phone: 44+(1638) 522151

Advertising

For advertising rates and information, call
44+(1428) 609920

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Photo by Senior Airman Lynne Neveu

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In an effort to keep Team Liberty updated on the wing's progress in the flying hour program, this info-graphic will appear in the last Jet 48 every month. For the 48th Fighter Wing, the status of the FHP is a major factor in determining whether Team Liberty can take a day off for reaching its goal.

ON THE COVER

Learning in a Family Environment group, student Jenna Georgeff, 15, reads with Micah Baughman and Elise Wilkes, both 2, during a homeschool meeting. *Photo by Senior Airman Lynne Neveu.* For story, see Pages 14 to 15.

Drive to arrive

Safe driving is paramount to our safety

BY BRIG. GEN. JOHN T. BRENNAN

48TH FIGHTER WING COMMANDER

Safety is one of Team Liberty's four main priorities for 2003; we cannot afford to lose even one of our team members due to unsafe behavior. Recently, there have been several serious driving mishaps within the surrounding communities and the mishaps seem to be on the rise. As winter thaws and the colors of spring bloom, we need to ensure we take extra precautions on the roads and make wise and safe driving choices every time we get into a vehicle.

As guests of the East Anglia community, we must pay special attention to our driving habits – specifically our speed. As Americans, we comprise about one third of the local population here in Suffolk. While local authorities don't track whether road traffic accidents have American involvement or not, we are more susceptible to accidents here because of the differences in driving between here than in the States.

Recently, local village parish councils voiced numerous concerns that include the driving habits of Americans here in this area. Some of these concerns involve behaviors such as driving too fast for conditions, exceeding the national speed limit in built-up areas such as Eriswell and Lakenheath Villages (30 mph), failing to use indicators, improper use of roundabouts and failure to use headlights during bad weather. There are several areas in our communities that are identified as potential high accident areas (see story on Page 7) where drivers are urged to be extra careful. All of these concerns are valid and should be taken seriously when you are behind the wheel.

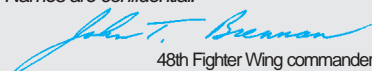
The roads in our immediate area are obviously of great concern to all of us; we are always trying to make things safer for everyone. The 48th Fighter Wing Ground Safety Office is in constant contact with the Suffolk Road Traffic Office, sharing ideas and identifying potential areas for improvements. The bottom line however comes down to you.

The roads are narrower, slipperier, curvier and lack adequate shoulders/curbs as compared to those in the States. As a result we must adapt our driving style, slow down our speeds and drive more defensively.

Living and working in East Anglia is very rewarding, but we must do so safely. Improving the safety on our local roads requires a commitment from all of us. I know the men and women of Team Liberty are up to the challenge. As we continue to focus on our state of readiness and our vigilance in force protection measures, we must also stay vigilant in our driving and overall safety posture. The local communities have been great supporters of increased security measures and have tolerated the inconveniences caused by our force protection conditions. Being responsible neighbors is important to our host-nation relations, quality of life, and overall mission success. Let's all be model drivers who are courteous and committed to the rules of the roads. You are all valuable assets to the mission, and I urge you to drive to arrive!

YOUR LINK TO THE COMMANDER

The Action Line is your direct link to me for complaints, suggestions or comments. It's not intended to replace the chain of command. When normal command agency channels haven't been able to resolve your concerns, call 7-2324, fax 7-5637, e-mail (Action.Line@lakenheath.af.mil), send through distribution (48 FW/PA), mail (48FW/PA, Unit 5210 Box 215 APO AE 09461-0215), or hand carry your Action Line to the public affairs office (Building 1085). You may remain anonymous; however, to receive a reply, please leave your name, unit, duty or home phone number, and full APO mailing address. Names are confidential.


48th Fighter Wing commander

Crime in base housing

I'm writing in regards to the ongoing crime in Anglo (Lords Walk) housing. I'm a resident there and my home has been vandalized, property damaged or stolen at least seven times in the past seven months. I hoped by moving on base that I would have some sense of security for my family and children, especially when I'm deployed. Unfortunately, that has not been the case.

I have already spoken with security forces and they have offered no help, other than crime reports to fill out. Apparently, this is out of their area of control. I have also spoken with Ministry of Defence police; they were a bit more help. They told me they are planning a Neighborhood Watch program and will increase patrols and they gave me more crime reports to

fill out. I have since spoken with the base housing manager who told me there are plans for security lighting in our area, but they are working with security forces to determine the best locations. In the meantime, he has allowed me to put security lighting on my home which must be installed by a certified electrician and then removed by me, all out of my own pocket upon PCS.

Plans for Neighborhood Watch and security lights are great, but with no action, there is no program. I can count on one hand the number of times MOD has actually patrolled our housing area. To top it all off, I can't even file a claim through legal because they say I have not taken enough precautions to prevent it.

This is base housing! I didn't know I needed barbed wire and an armed guard! When are we going to see some action taken to stop the continued crime in Anglo housing? It would be nice to see a claims office that is actually willing to help you with a claim rather than how quickly they can deny it as well.

Thank you for the inquiry. Your e-mail certainly got my attention. Rest assured, job one is to provide a safe and secure environment for Team Liberty. Despite the proximity of Anglo housing to the base, this property is privately owned. However, even though Anglo housing is not part of the main base, we still maintain a presence with routine patrols assisted by MOD police. We hope to

acquire this property and have Anglo housing permanently within our fence line. In the meantime, we strongly urge residents to help reduce their vulnerability to crime.

Step one is Neighborhood Watch, a program that depends on volunteer residents playing active roles in preventing crime. As you mentioned, we do not have Neighborhood Watch in Anglo, but we do in all other areas. No one has stepped forward to lead the program and we would love to have a volunteer. If you, or anyone you know would like to volunteer, call the 48th Security Forces Squadron Crime Prevention section.

Step two is to practice basic crime prevention measures such as placing property out of sight or locking cars. When things are stolen, the government may make gratuitous payments for certain types of property loss or damage to property owned by military and civilian personnel residing on or off base under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act. The MPCA is not designed as a substitute for insurance. Instead, it is intended to lessen the hardships of military life by providing for prompt and fair payment, subject to certain guidelines such as first filing with your private insurer. If you have any questions on how to file a claim, call the claims office at 226-1306. Remember, crime prevention is everyone's business; collectively we can make a difference.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tiffany Jeltema

The major banking turn in the center of Eriswell is one of several potential high accident areas.

Basic risk management reduces driving accidents

48TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

STAFF REPORT

Although the daylight is increasing and the night darkness decreasing, it is still winter here. The climate might not be as extreme as previous assignments, but recent weather has been a challenge here in the United Kingdom. The combination of wind, rain, ice, snow, darkness and poor visibility on narrow rural roads can make even the shortest trip a treacherous one.

According to the 48th Fighter Wing Safety Office, there were several traffic accidents recently in the local area that raised concerns with driving in general.

“We need to raise our awareness of the risks while driving in the United Kingdom,” said Lt. Col. Dave Kensinger, 48th FW Safety Office chief. “Drivers need to instill a healthy respect for driving in Europe that will help us make better choices while driving.”

In order to minimize the risks to people and property, drivers should practice basic risk management, said Kensinger. Risk management isn’t just a catch phrase to complete a task while on duty, it is a crucial part of everyday life. It involves making smart decisions in all activities. One such routine task is driving to and from work. Here are some common sense driving decisions:

❑ Choose a main road instead of a back road when road conditions are poor. Main roads are usually in better condition.

❑ Leave 10 minutes earlier than usual when visibility is poor, because average speeds will be slower.

❑ Replace car tires even if they passed the Ministry of Transport inspection last year. Proper tire tread increases traction in slippery conditions.

❑ Turn vehicle lights on to increase visibility for yourself and others

❑ Scrape the ice off of all vehicle windows, not just the driver’s side of the windshield. Good visibility is required in all directions, not just forward.

❑ Slow down when driving on a narrow, winding, dark or unfamiliar road.

❑ Wear seat belts and ensure all other passengers do too.

People must continue to make good decisions and exercise sound risk management both on and off duty.

People can start by making smart choices while driving here in the United Kingdom. As the wing commander, Brig. Gen. John T. Brennan, said, driving is the most dangerous thing we do here in Europe. Drivers need to slow down, pay more attention to driving and become a model of safe driving.

Additional safety hazards to be aware of:

❑ Higher speeds on back roads than in the states – just because it’s one lane in each direction does not mean it is safe to travel at 60 mph.

❑ Abrupt road edges – as large vehicles travel down the narrow roads, the actual edge of the paved surface deteriorates and falls off. A moment’s distraction could be very dangerous

❑ Standing water on road surfaces can cause vehicle damage and hydroplaning or aquaplaning causing drivers to temporarily lose control of their vehicle

❑ Limited visibility, such as hedge rows, block the view of on-coming traffic on winding rural roads.

❑ Traffic calming devices, bollards or speed bumps when ignored

Dangerous roads

There are specific potential high accident areas around RAF Lakenheath drivers should be aware of. The areas include, but are not limited to:



❑ (Above) The junction of the C602 and B1112, the primary route to and from here to RAF Mildenhall

❑ (Left) The major banking turn in Eriswell



❑ (Above) A1065 rounding the base golf course toward Brandon; drivers tend to overtake and ignore the hazard warning lines

❑ Wangford Road has numerous abrupt edges and uneven surfaces



❑ (Above) Junction of the A1065 and Wangford Road has limited visibility and vehicles turning

❑ Junction of the B1112 and the A1065, a staggered junction across a 60 mph zone on the A1065

❑ B1112, dips, bends, sharp deviations, no verge and the only access to Lords Walk gate

❑ (Below) “Five-ways” roundabout, junction of the A11, A1065 and A1101





Dentists answer questions, concerns on youths' care

48TH DENTAL SQUADRON

STAFF REPORT

Dental health care is important for children even before they have their first dental appointment.

Early examination and education will protect children's teeth now and for the future.

The following list contains common questions and concerns parents have.

When should my child first see a dentist?

At RAF Lakenheath, children should have their dental appointment around 18 months of age, unless parents have concerns. Early examination and education will protect children's teeth now and for the future.

What dental problems could a baby have?

A large concern is early childhood caries, also known as baby bottle tooth decay or nursing caries. Children risk severe decay from using a bottle during the night or when they nap. Nursing continuously is also a risk.

How can I prevent tooth decay from a bottle or nursing?

Children should not fall asleep with a bottle. Nighttime breast-feeding should be avoided after the first tooth erupts. When given juice, it should be in a cup, not a bottle. Encourage children to drink from a cup as they approach their first birthday.

When should bottle-feeding be stopped?

Children should be weaned from the bottle at 12 to 14 months of age and introduced to the cup between 6 to 9 months of age.

Should I worry about thumb sucking and finger sucking?

Thumb sucking is normal for infants; most stop by age 2. If the child does not stop, discourage it after age 4. Problems can be caused by prolonged thumb sucking such as crowded or crooked teeth. Dentists will suggest ways to address a prolonged thumb sucking habit.

When should I start cleaning my baby's teeth?

Starting at birth, clean children's gums with a soft infant toothbrush and water. Remember, most small children do not have the dexterity needed to brush their teeth effectively. Do not use fluoridated toothpaste until age 2 to 3, unless the child's dentist advises it.

What advice do you have on teething?

From 6 months to age 3, children may have sore gums when teeth erupt. Many children like a clean teething ring, cool spoon or cold, wet wash cloth.

Airman sentenced for drug use

A 48th Communications Squadron airman was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, confinement for 30 days, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a reduction in grade to E-1 during a court-martial here Feb. 21.

Airman 1st Class Clinton C. Thornton pleaded guilty to three specifications of violation of Article 112a under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, "wrongful use of controlled substances." The substances were hashish and Ecstasy.

This court-martial is the seventh in a continuation of disciplinary actions against several RAF Lakenheath airmen suspected of using, possessing and distributing controlled substances, as first announced in a base press release, dated Oct. 16, 2002.

Tips for sending care parcels

RAF LAKENHEATH POST OFFICE

STAFF REPORT

Support of deployed troops by sending care parcels is a laudable endeavor and significantly appreciated by each grateful recipient.

If preparing a care parcel to a deployed location, people should keep these tips in mind: cushion parcel contents to withstand handling during transit; use an accurate "To" address to ensure timely delivery; care parcels must be sent by individuals using a personal return address and not sent from organizations as official mail; items donated by individuals for care parcels may not travel as official mail, which is exempt from customs declarations and duty and may require postage if forwarded. Most countries have prohibitions and restrictions on what items may be mailed to them.

If unsure of what can be sent, ask a postal clerk to check.

Mailing prohibitions include batteries inside electrical items, musical cards that may be activated during transit, alcohol or tobacco products and perishable items such as fresh fruit.

If sending more than 10 parcels, coordinate with the post office prior to arrival.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Claudette Hutchinson

Going fast

People from around the base lined up Tuesday to shop at the Non-appropriated funds furniture sale in Bldg. 995. Items sold included desks, beds, tables and more at discounted prices.

RAF Lakenheath members receive Articles 15

The following people received nonjudicial punishment in January under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

☐ An airman first class assigned to the 48th Medical Operations Squadron was charged with violating Article 86 for being absent without leave by failing to go to an official appointment, and Article 92 for dereliction of duty by failing to comply with appearance standards. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman basic, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

☐ An airman first class assigned to the 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron was charged with violating Article 128 for battering his spouse, and Article 134 for communicating a threat to his spouse. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman, forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for two months, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

☐ An airman first class assigned to the 48th Dental Squadron was charged with violating Article 112 for wrongful use and possession of marijuana. The airman received a reduction in rank to airman.

☐ An airman first class assigned to the 48th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was charged with Article 92 for dereliction of duty by failing to comply with dormitory standards, and Article 134 for dishonorably failing to pay a personal debt. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman basic, restriction to base for 15 days and 30 days extra duty.

☐ A senior airman assigned to the 48th Component Maintenance Squadron was charged with violating Article 108 for damage to U.S. Air Force property, and Article 134 for being drunk and disorderly. The airman received a reduction in rank to airman first class and a reprimand.

☐ An airman first class assigned to the 48th AMXS was charged with violating Article 92 for dereliction of duty by failing to comply with dormitory standards, and Article 128 for assaulting another military member. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman, forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months and 30 days extra duty.

☐ A senior airman from the 48th DS was charged with violating Article 111 for drunk driving. The airman received a suspended reduction in rank to airman first class, forfeiture of \$250 pay per month for two months, 20 extra days duty and a reprimand.



Photo courtesy of the 48th Fighter Wing History Office

50 years of news

As part of the new military rank system that included the supergrades of E-8 and E-9, three Liberty Wing Senior NCOs received their new stripes in December 1959. Chief Master Sgt. Alvin Burlingame, center, of the Armament and Electronics Squadron, became the wing's first chief master sergeant. In 1971, Burlingame became the wing's second Senior Enlisted Advisor and served in that position until 1975.

STAR card policy correction

On Page 4 of the Feb. 21 issue of the Jet 48, the STAR charge card rates were incorrect. When customers first open a STAR card account, they receive 10 percent off their first charged balance.

Throughout the year, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has promotional specials on various items for STAR card holders.

For more information on the card or special offers, call the base exchange at or visit the AAFES Web site at www.aafes.com.



Hometown: Rose City, Mich.

Time in service: Three years, five months

Time on station: One year, five months

Role in mission: Aerospace ground equipment journeyman

Hobbies: Snowboarding, ice hockey and riding dirt bikes

Favorite movie: "Top Gun"

How do you contribute to the wing mission? Provide high quality aerospace ground equipment for the 494th Fighter Squadron's F-15E aircraft maintenance and sortie generation efforts and to train new airmen to do the same

What does the Air and Space Expeditionary Force concept mean to you? Being able to do my job in another part of the world and knowing in advance when I'll deploy

What do you like best about the Air

Force? I like knowing what I am doing is keeping America free

If you could change one thing about the Air Force, what would it be?

Change promotion tests to encompass more hands-on skills in each career field and also change the fitness test to a run instead of a stationary bike

What do you like most about being in the United Kingdom? Having mainland Europe and all of England's history so accessible

Who is your role model and why? My mother and father – there are no better people in the world



Senior Airman
John C. Healey
48th Equipment
Maintenance Squadron



Photo by Army 1st Lt. Cory Angell

Air Force firefighters battle a blaze Feb. 21 that destroyed the exchange, barbershop, gift and coffee shop at Kandahar, Afghanistan. The blaze also destroyed the personal living quarters of 25 Army and Air Force Exchange Service employees. Damage costs are estimated at more than \$1 million.

Exchange reopens days after destructive fire

BY ARMY SPC. JIM WAGNER

109TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFPN) — Air Force firefighters battled a blaze here Feb. 21 that destroyed the exchange, barbershop, gift and coffee shop plus the personal living quarters of 25 Army and Air Force Exchange Service employees at Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Also damaged was the morale, welfare and recreation computer, movie and telephone tents.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Air Force firefighters were concerned about containing the fire that was heading toward a diesel fuel bladder and other critical buildings.

Fierce winds, measured at about 25 mph at the time of the fire, and the confined space around the exchange compound made saving any part of the building difficult.

"We went to the back and the wind was blowing toward us," said Airman 1st Class Charvis Kali Gordan, a firefighter. "We got there and there was debris, ash, pitch black smoke and my eyes were burning even with my mask on. My helmet started burning up a little bit so I knew it was hot."

The fire, which took five water trucks, bulldozers and 20 firefighters to contain, destroyed 90 percent of AAFES food at the base as well as all its stock on the shelves. The damage estimate, according to Scott Curran, AAFES field accountant, is more than \$1 million.

Curran, like the other 24 AAFES employees, lost everything in the blaze including his clothing and bed plus irreplaceable items like photographs, he said. The employees are staying in temporary lodging, and officials at AAFES headquarters are currently looking at recouping employees' losses.

But despite personal losses, Curran and other employees concentrated first on getting a temporary exchange open for business. It opened Feb. 23. Also open for business is a new barbershop and gift shop.

Plans are already in the works on a new exchange located just yards from the site of the previous one, behind the base gym. Officials expect the project to be completed in the next seven to eight weeks.

SECAF, CSAF: War requires team effort

BY MASTER SGT. RICK BURNHAM

AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

WASHINGTON — Despite dramatic successes in recent armed conflicts, the Air Force would only present a portion of the forces brought to bear against Iraq, if indeed war is needed to disarm the forces of Saddam Hussein.

Winning such a conflict will require a team effort, said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche, bringing together the combined efforts of not only each of the nation's armed services, but reserve forces and their civilian employers as well.

The secretary's comments came Feb. 19 during an interview with correspondents from Washington-based radio station WTOP. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper joined him during the broadcast, which included questions from call-in listeners around the national capital region.

"Although we'll use airpower right off the bat," Roche said, "our armed services fight as a team."

Jumper agreed, adding that recent advancements in technology will produce some very significant results.

"We never fight alone," the general said. "It's a coordinated effort among all the services, and we certainly do our part. But we never pretend that it's all about airpower. We're going to go in there, if the President asks us to do this, with much more striking power than we've had in the past, certainly more than we saw in Desert Storm. I think you're going to be very surprised and pleased with what you see."

That improved striking power will require a powerful blend of airpower from a variety of different sources, Roche said.

"It's a combat air force, not just the Air Force," the secretary said. "It will also be naval air and Marine Corps aviation, so it's the combat air force of the United States."

It is all about the "total force concept," Roche continued, a prescription for success when it comes to armed conflict.

"We have had a total force concept for some time that works very, very well," he said. "We can do things with our active force immediately ... and the Reserves or Guard do everything that the rest of the Air Force does, and so therefore they add to it."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Tolley

Phat laughs

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM — Airman Ryan Kuhlman, 321st Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, performs a "The Fat Guy" skit during the Saturday Night Live show Saturday at the dining facility. Kuhlman is deployed from RAF Lakenheath in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



the
Homeschool
advantage

Story and photos by Senior Airman Lynne Neveu

48th Fighter Wing public affairs

Parents guide children’s education

Parents want to provide the best of everything for their child. Not only the name brand sneakers and jeans, or compact discs and DVDs of their child’s favorite artist, but things less materialistic. Not everyone has the means, or the desire, to buy all the “status symbols” of today’s youth. “The best” is a subjective idea. What one parent deems the only path of choice for his child, another parent may question or label as unfit for his own children.

The choices Team Liberty parents have when it comes to their child’s education are many. Dependent children of military and Department of Defense employees can attend DOD Dependents Schools or British schools, or the parent may take a unique opportunity and guide their child’s education throughout the year at home.

“Homeschooling allows the parent to adjust the curriculum to the individual student’s learning style,” said Cheryl Vandegrist, who has homeschooled her three children for eight years. “The child will still get a broad overview of all academic areas, but I have the advantage of being able to focus their energy and time in the areas they show the most desire to excel in.”

Her oldest son, Gerad, has a passion for history, so that is where she concentrated a lot of their study time.

“I went back to DODDS for my freshman year, and I found (the curriculum) very restrictive,” said Gerad, 16. “So I returned to home-school my sophomore year.”

The curriculum’s flexibility is seen as an advantage to homeschooling, according to many participating parents. There are many programs and textbooks for parents to buy, but the child’s progress and the parent’s intuition are the ultimate guides. Parents may choose a structured, textbook-guided curriculum or a more free-flowing format. However, most states require parents to teach basic fundamentals such as reading, spelling, handwriting,

English, math, science and history.

“Each state mandates standardized tests in certain grades,” said Diana Waring, a homeschool parent for more than 10 years and an international homeschool seminar leader and author. “I had my children tested every year to see their progress in science, language, math and history. It showed us the areas we needed to concentrate on.”

When the textbook homeschool parent Elizabeth Moore was using had only two pages describing the Civil War, she decided her children needed to understand the importance of that pivotal time in American history.

“We spent three months studying the Civil War in detail,” said Moore. “Homeschooling means the difference between allowing a more in-depth study of events versus a broad overview.”

Homeschool parents are not tied down by a rigid academic calendar, snow days or even sick days. The calendar can be traditional, September through June, or year-round.

“When a child is sick, he can still read a book or watch an educational video,” said Vandegrist. “He doesn’t have to worry about making up a whole day of missed work at school. During one sick day, my daughter read 200 pages of ‘Jane Eyre’ (by Charlotte Bronte).”

Academics are not the only subjects covered by

homeschooled students.

“You can teach your children skills throughout the day such as cooking, laundry and cleaning,” said Phyllis Georgeff, who has homeschooled for more than eight years. “They’re learning life skills, not just education. They learn to talk well with adults and work well with each other, with children of all age ranges.”

Support groups, such as the 40-family strong Learning in a Family Environment homeschool support group here, allow the families to get together, children to gain social skills and parents to share concerns and resources.

Moore has seen a big difference in the closeness of her family and the relationship with her children. “They are not being affected by peer pressure,” she said.

Like their peers, many homeschooled students also go on to higher education.

“I’d like to major in piano at a college in the states,” said Jenna Georgeef, 15, who has been homeschooled from the start. “I don’t see any problems with applying to



Rob Scherer, 8, plays the cello following his music theory lesson. In addition to academics, parents integrate music into the students’ curriculum. **(Top left)** Gerad Vandegrist, 16, completes one of his homework assignments. Throughout the course of the day, students have time to work individually. **(Bottom right)** Mandy Wilkes helps her daughter Elise, 2, make playdough. At home, toddlers are made to feel a part of lessons until their formal lessons begin at a later age.

schools. I’ll take the (Scholastic Aptitude Test) next year.”

Applying for college does not have to be a daunting task for homeschooled students, as long as accurate academic records are maintained, said Vandegrist. Colleges have varied admission policies, but in most states homeschoolers are seen as educated at a private school.

From kindergarten to college applications, all it takes is a parent who has an open heart and the willingness to learn along with their child, said Waring. Special certification or education requirements are not a prerequisite for parent teachers in most areas. The Home School Legal Defense Association provides legal requirements on their website at www.hslda.org.

“Homeschooling has allowed me to see the light go on in my child’s mind when he discovered that the letters on the page formed a word,” said Vandegrist, about her youngest son, Rian. “I watched his eyes light up as he said ‘F-O-X. Mommy, that spells fox!’ I wouldn’t trade it. It has allowed me watch my children grow each step of the way.”



For more information about homeschooling, call the LIFE home-school support group at (01284) 705866 or e-mail LIFEGrp@btopenworld.com, or call Lisa Hornish at (01638) 532784 or e-mail safeathome@yahoo.com.

Barracudas make waves in Germany



Courtesy photo

The Lakenheath Barracudas Swim Club proudly displays their team banner while competing at the Munich Championship, Germany. U.S. swimmers won 30 individual medals and were presented by 1972 Olympic Gold medalist swimmer, Steve Genter.

BY ED LARA

BARRACUDAS SWIM CLUB PRESIDENT

The Barracuda Swim Club started the European Forces Swim League with a big splash and ended its regular season Feb. 16 with a thunderous wave at the Munich Championship, Germany.

Thirty-two swimmers from RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall joined 18 other teams with more than 500 swimmers from throughout Europe. This marked the largest meet attendance in the league's history.

Barracuda swimmers, whose ages ranged from

7 to 16-years old, competed in Munich's 1972 Olympic Pool.

"The opportunity to swim in the 1972 Olympic pool and to perform like Olympians in their own right, are memories that can never be erased," said head coach Beth Peters. "All of our swimmers were amazing both in and out of the water."

Although the regular season is over, the team competes in the County Championship at Ipswich starting March 8. All Department of Defense members in the United Kingdom can participate or volunteer with the team. For questions about joining or volunteering with the swim club, contact Ed Lara at (01638) 533010 or e-mail lara3ec@yahoo.com.

Medal winners include:

Ileana Cruz, 8

Gold medal – 50-meter butterfly, 51.26

Silver medal – 50-meter freestyle, 40.84,

Silver medal – 100-meter individual medley, 1:48.84

Ann Ferris, 9

Silver medal – 50-meter backstroke

Earl Lara, 11

Gold medal – 50-meter breaststroke, 45.18

Silver medal – 100 IM, 1:34.75

Amanda Cruz, 11

Bronze medal – 50 freestyle

Jonathan Gillingham, 12

Silver medal – 100 IM

Silver medal – 50 butterfly

Konrad Korth, 13

Gold medal – 100-meter butterfly, 1:10.62

Silver medal – 100-meter freestyle, 1:01.32

Silver medal – 200-meter IM, 2:36.02

SPORTS SHORTS

Racquetball results

Results of the Annual Valentine's Racquetball Tournament, Feb. 21 through Sunday at the sports and fitness center are as follows:

A Division

First - Tom Matthews

Second - Kenneth Williams

B Division

First - Errol McCammon

Second - Keith Fisher

Doubles

First - Tom Matthews and Kenneth Williams

Second - Ron Kolodziejczyk and John Caparra

Certification course

The sports and fitness center offers a racquetball instructor's certification course March 8 and 9 at the cost of \$200. For more infor

Seasonal incentive prog

Saturday through March 31, people can earn stamps from the fitness center, health and wellness center or swimming pool to receive a prize.

Basketball tournament

The RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall intramural and over-30 basketball teams will face-off in the final four championship games today at the RAF Mildenhall sports and fitness center. The Over-30 teams play at 6:30 p.m. and intramurals at 7 p.m.

TRAINING 101

Exercise

Assisted tricep dip

Muscles

Triceps and pectorals

Position

Start with the thumb of your hand in line with midline of the body, the remaining

hand behind midline. Extend arms but don't lock your elbow.

Movement

Lower body weight down until elbow and shoulder are parallel. Return by extending the arm without locking the elbow. Repeat. Inhale when lower, exhale when rising.



Photos by Senior Airman Lynne Neveu
Lorraine Botwright is the base fitness program director. For more information about fitness activities and personal trainers, call 226-3607.

Makings of a bureaucracy in airpower

BY LT. COL. CHRIS CHOATE

48TH OPERATION SUPPORT SQUADRON
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

History has not been kind to Max Weber, a German sociologist who's often called the father of bureaucracy (not a title many of us would like to hold). The word bureaucracy doesn't instill confidence. In most discussions the word has a negative connotation. For example:

"We can't do it – the bureaucracy won't let us."

"It'll be a month before the part arrives thanks to the bureaucracy."

"It's going to take a week longer and cost twice as much but I've been told by the bureaucracy that that's how we have to do it."

Sound familiar? I'm sure it does. In fact, I doubt any of us can remember the last time we heard the term bureaucracy used in a positive light.

So why should this concern us? Quite simply: because we work in one. The Air Force and the Liberty Wing are bureaucracies, and we are not alone. Virtually every large organization uses a bureaucratic organizational model. Why? Because they work. The advantages of a bureaucracy outweigh the consequences. Since we are members of a bureaucracy, a quick look at this organizational model can teach us a great deal. It can help us make our workplace safer and more productive. Understanding why we are organized as we are can help the men and women of the Liberty Wing improve our ability to produce airpower for America.

Weber addressed seven characteristics of a bureaucracy. Here are three I believe are relevant to an Air Force wing. They are

formalization (rules and procedures), division of labor and a well-defined authoritative hierarchy or chain of command.

Formalization

Probably the most important reason large organizations use a bureaucratic model is to ensure equal standards across the entire organization. In our line of work, following AFIs and tech orders is not just a good idea – it's essential. Many of us in the Liberty Wing deal in potentially dangerous environments: jet engines, live weapons and heavy equipment are just a few. Following the checklist and tech order ensures we perform our work safely and efficiently. We cannot afford to make mistakes when the cost can be millions of dollars in damage, or worse – a serious injury or death.

Division of Labor

Maintaining our sophisticated F-15s requires a division of labor to build experts in the many fields necessary to operate these fighters. Your job may seem a thousand miles from our flightline, but every member of Team Liberty has a vital role in the wing mission. The supplies you order may be the ones a pilot needs before he or she can fly the next sortie. The personnel issue you work may be the one that gives our maintenance squadron enough people to support the next exercise. Regardless of your rank or duty title, you were trained to perform a job that is essential to the production of airpower. Doing your absolute best in the job you have today, understanding your supervisor and commander's needs, and training those under you to one day assume your position is vital to the Liberty Wing and America's Air Force.

Chain of Command

A formal chain of command is a defining characteristic of military organizations. We must always have a clear delineation of command from

the lowest ranks to the highest. This provides the best assurance that our individual efforts support the commander's overall objectives and that we have accountability throughout the unit. For members of the Liberty Wing, it's important to remember that a proper chain of command facilitates decision-making at the appropriate level. A wing commander can't make every decision affecting his or her wing. The same holds true for group and squadron command. This is the rationale for flight commanders, supervisors, first sergeants, etc. Our Air Force could not function without NCOs and officers knowing when to make decisions at their level and when to send an issue up the chain.

The Air Force can't write an answer for every situation. Sometimes the book answer just doesn't make sense. When it doesn't, tell your supervisor. He or she may be able to explain why the answer does make sense. If they can't, maybe the regulation needs to be changed. That's our job too – ensuring we don't waste time or resources.

The beauty of the chain of command is leaders using their experience, good judgement, and plain old common sense to make the mission happen safely and effectively.

Maybe history hasn't given Weber a fair trial. Bureaucracies do have their faults. However, this is more an indictment on human behavior than on the organization's structure. The Liberty Wing and the Air Force are bureaucracies. This shouldn't be a liability. By following the AFIs, knowing how important one's job is to the wing mission, and providing effective leadership throughout the chain of command, we can ensure the Liberty Wing is ready to provide decisive airpower when our nation calls.

School tournament develops creative minds

BY LINDA L. CURTIS

ISLES DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Are you ready to take your imagination on a trip? Students will have that opportunity March 8 when the Destination ImagiNation tournament is held at Lakenheath High School. Twenty-two schools will bring 42 teams to RAF Lakenheath including 13 Department of Defense Dependant Schools from the Isles District and nine international or British schools from Luton, Cobham and Bedford, England; Aberdeen, Scotland; and Riga, Latvia.

Destination ImagiNation is an extra-curricular program for students who want to develop life-long skills in creative problem solving. The concept is based on the idea of divergent thinking or an understanding that there is more than one way to solve a problem.

One unique part of this competition is that Isles District DODD schools belong to the United Kingdom Destination ImagiNation organization, so our DODDS teams compete against British and international schools without the language barrier that prevents other European DODDS teams from competing with their host nation schools.

The Destination ImagiNation program is available for all kindergarten to 12-grade students but teams compete only against their peers in any one of the four levels.

Creativity is the element that adds dimension and fun to these problem-solving activities. Creative problem-solving is divided into two parts; both are team efforts.

The first is the Team Challenge, a long-term problem that a group of four to seven students spends months solving. The challenges can range anywhere from artistic to technical subjects. After months of work, this group must come up with its own solutions in the form of a skit.

The second part is the Instant Challenge where the group is presented with a problem and has to come up with a solution on the spot. The success of the Instant Challenge depends on teamwork and the ability to think on your feet.

Winners from the LHS tournament may advance to the international competition in Knoxville, Tenn.

The tournament starts at 10 a.m. March 8 with closing ceremonies at 5:30 p.m. The public is welcome to see how our problem solvers creatively use their imagination to resolve their situations.



Discover Britain

By Sal Davidson – Community Relations Adviser



U.K. history and heritage

Editor's note: This is part two of a series which looks at historical Britain from the Tudors through the Victorians.

The Tudors, 1485 to 1603

One of the most famous kings in our history is Henry VIII. The fact most people remember about him is that he married six times in the attempt to produce a male heir to his throne, getting rid of his unwanted wives along the way! Henry was a highly educated and cultured man and broke away from the Catholic Church to form the Church of England and proclaimed himself its head.

This period also saw the "Renaissance," which means new birth. This is when major changes came about in society, culture and art. People were encouraged to learn and experience new things. There was a focus on life that had not been evident within the medieval times when the focus was often on death and the soul.

Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe in his ship, the Golden Hind, and actually landed on the coast of modern California whilst on his travels. His whole adventure took nearly three years, and on his return to Plymouth, England, he was rewarded a Knighthood on board his ship by Queen Elizabeth I.

During this time, England's greatest playwright flourished. William Shakespeare not only wrote plays, but he also acted in many of the performances.

The Stuarts, 1603 to 1713

This period started with the famous gunpowder plot when Guy Fawkes and his accomplices attempted to blow up King James I at the opening

of Parliament. This led to Nov. 5 being a national day of celebration, commemorating the successful capture of the nationally declared traitor, Fawkes.

It was a turbulent time between the king and Parliament, and this unease led to the English Civil War. The Royalists and the Parliamentary sides fought hard and eventually Charles I surrendered and was executed. Oliver Cromwell, the Puritan leader of the Parliamentary side, declared England a "Republic." This remained until Parliament accepted a restoration of the monarchy with Charles II.

Farming methods were evolving and the country changed from a shortage of food to being able to produce enough for export.

In 1666, the heritage of centuries had all been lost in the Great Fire of London. Two thirds of the city was destroyed, but the slums situated outside the city wall remained untouched. Christopher Wren, a young architect, presented plans to rebuild most of the city and he was responsible for the design and building of places such as the Royal Hospital and the rebuilding of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The end of the Stuart period saw the industrial revolution. The most significant invention was thought to be the steam engine, which was developed and used within factories and later on the railways.

The Georgians, 1714 to 1836

Agricultural and industrial developments led to urbanisation. Factories flourished with the inventions of weaving machines, which in turn led to the working class. People began to get wealthy from industry. Britain was one of the world's first "modern" societies. This industrial revolution was not without opposition though. A group called the "Luddites" who were traditional home workers, began to break these machines in protest. Despite the government's attempts to stop this practice, the attacks spread across the Midlands to the North of England. Mills and property were damaged and on occasion people were killed.

This time also saw unrest in some of the British colonies around the world. The War of American Independence was fought and this, in turn, gave other colonies claimed by countries such as France and Spain the opportunity and ambition to claim their own independence.

The first bank note was used during this time as well. Up until this point money would be exchanged for gold so the denominations of the notes were high. This period also saw the first prime minister coming into power and leading the other members of Parliament.



William Shakespeare

The Victorians, 1837 to 1901

Queen Victoria is the longest reigning British Monarch to date. She was married to Albert with whom she had nine children. Following his death in 1861, Victoria went into mourning and completely withdrew herself from national affairs. It was not until the late 1870s that the prime minister at the time managed to encourage her active participation in public life. Both her Golden and Diamond Jubilee saw a massive outpouring of public affection and her death in 1901 saw national mourning.

The Victorian era saw the first stamps being used by the post office called "Penny Blacks." The Public Health Act saw streets cleaned, refuse collected, clean water supplied and sewage taken away. Factory legislation stated that people 9-years-old and older could not work more than 12-hour days and people under 9 could not be legally employed. Laws continued to evolve to the advantage of the workers.

In 1870, a new law was passed to say that every village or town had to have a school, which meant that children now had to attend school. At this time the boys and girls were segregated and it was considered more important for boys to receive an education than girls.

One infamous Victorian character was Jack the Ripper. After the murder of five women around Whitehall in London, an investigation was launched for the killer. Despite the investigation and much public rumour and speculation, the case remains unsolved.

(Some information obtained from the BBC History Web site at www.bbc.co.uk/history)



An early steam engine.

Courtesy photos

For more information on living in Britain, look in the British community information public folder, or call Sal Davidson, community relations advisor, at 226-3145, or e-mail sal.davidson@lakenheath.af.mil.

information, call (07799) 595928 or e-mail TiffanyTulip@go.com.

High school tutors

Lakenheath High School needs Spanish and math tutors during their seminar period every other day from 11:35 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

School advisory committee

Lakenheath Middle School holds its next School Advisory Committee meeting at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school's Ivy Room. Parents with an issue for agenda should call the school's office

Gas mask test hours

The new hours for gas mask fit testing hours at the bioenvironmental engineering flight are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 7:30 a.m. to noon Fridays. Fit testing for RAF Lakenheath members is located on the first floor of the hospital annex, Bldg. 922. Fit testing for RAF Mildenhall members is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays at RAF Mildenhall mobility supply, Bldg. 550. RAF Mildenhall members may

Commissary closure

The RAF Lakenheath commissary is closed March 9 to upgrade computer software for the cash registers. The RAF Mildenhall commissary store opens 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 9 for customer's convenience.

Popeye's closure

Popeye's is closed Feb. 21 through March 15 for construction. They will reopen March 16.

Destination ImagiNation

Lakenheath High School seeks 11 judges for the Destination ImagiNation Tournament from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 8. Training, breakfast and lunch are provided.

School mentors

Feltwell Elementary School requests mentors to work with students for 30 to 45 minutes per week. The children are referred by the teachers, mostly for social reasons, but also academic. For more information e-mail Mark_Solomon@eu.odedodea.edu.

Bus monitors

The Department of Defense Dependents School liaison office seeks volunteer bus monitors for the daily school bus commute. There are currently 63 buses and two monitors. Monitors must be age 21 or older.

Dance instruction needed

A local student requests volunteers to assist with a dance project 5:30 p.m. Sunday in the RAF Mildenhall fitness center. Volunteers must be at least age 15 and be interested in modern, jazz and hip-hop dance. Experience and training are preferred, but not necessary. For more

Editor's note: As of Monday, **seven-digit dialing** will be used for all on base and within Europe DSN calls. Commercial access, dialing 99, will not change. Access code 94 is no longer needed for DSN. Within the DSN 314 prefix, dial only the seven-digit DSN. Outside 314, continue to dial the prefix plus seven digits. The 98 access is no longer used for RAF Mildenhall, use the seven-digit system.

Briefs

Military tuition assistance

All military personnel using tuition assistance are advised against withdrawing from classes based on the possibility of deployment.

Supervision guidelines ensure youth safety

The RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall communities established Lakenheath/Mildenhall Instruction 36-2901, Joint Community Standards, to ensure child safety. Parents are responsible for using reasonable judgement and for any incident or mishap which occurs. The ages specified below are the maximum ages and are based on the child's ability to demonstrate age-appropriate behavior. Children that do not

demonstrate age-appropriate behavior require greater supervision. The curfew is from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sundays through Thursday and from 11:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. Fridays, Saturdays and holidays. During the curfew period, minor aged family members (under age 18) are not allowed away from their place of residence unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult sponsor.

Age of Child	Left Without Sitter In Quarters for Two Hours or Less	Left Without Sitter In Quarters for More Than Two Hours	Left Alone Overnight	Unattended (To Include Playing out side)	Left In Car Unattended	Child Sit Siblings	Child Sit Others
Newborn Through Age 4	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Age 5 Through Age 6	No	No	No	Yes: playground or yard, under consent and direct Adult supervision that can intervene at a moment's notice. ***	No	No	No
Age 7 Through Age 9	No	No	No	Yes: with access to adult assistance. 9 yr. old may attend the Youth Center ***	No: 7 & 8 yr. olds Yes: 9 yr. olds, keys removed and handbrake applied	No	No
Age 10 Through Age 11	Yes: with ready access (phone number to an responsible adult)*/***	Yes: with ready access (phone number to an responsible adult) before curfew; not after curfew */***	No	Yes	Yes: keys removed and handbrake applied	No	No
Age 12 Through Age 14	Yes	Yes: with access to responsible adult; before curfew; not after curfew ***	No: 12 & 13 yr. olds Yes : 14 yr. olds	Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes**
Age 15 Through High School Graduation	Yes	Yes	Yes: may be left alone for short TDYs or leaves, not to exceed 5 consecutive days. These minors must have some type of adult supervision available to make periodic checks.	Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes**

*Home-alone training by Youth Center or other source required

** Red Cross baby-sitting training or equivalent is highly recommended

*** Adult supervision / Responsible adult: is defined as someone who has or assumes responsibility for the child, e.g., parent, guardian, care provider, friend 18yrs or older.

MOVIES

RAF Mildenhall 238-2351

Today

6:30 p.m., The Hot Chick, PG-13, starring Rob Schneider and Rachel McAdams. A "popular yet mean-spirited" teenage girl wakes up one day to find herself turned into a man. Along the way to finding out how she ended up like that, she discovers how shallow and cruel she's always been.



9:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13, starring Ben Affleck and Michael Clarke Duncan. Story of Matt Murdock, son of a boxer who gets killed by petty criminals for refusing to take a dive. This drives young Matt to fight crime, despite a childhood accident that robbed him of his sight.

Saturday

1:30 p.m., Treasure Planet, PG, animated. Fifteen-year-old Jim Hawkins joins the crew of an intergalactic expedition as cabin boy aboard a glittering space galleon. Befriended by the ship's cook, a charismatic cyborg named John Silver, Jim blossoms under his guidance, and shows the makings of a fine "spacer" as he and the alien crew battle supernovas.

4:00 p.m., Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights, PG-13, animated. Davey is lurching down a wayward path. He's facing prison when Whitey proposes that Davey work with him at the community center as a referee for the local basketball league. But the true test is whether Davey can rise above his self-destructive habits.

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13

9:30 p.m., 8 Mile, R, starring Eminem and Kim Basinger. A young white rapper from Detroit must learn to deal with his emotions and anger through music. Struggling with the psychological drain of being the only white kid around and without a supportive family to help him, the rapper turns to his music and his girlfriend to find the courage to make the most of the crummy life he was dealt.

Sunday

3:00 p.m., Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, PG, starring Daniel Radcliffe and Alan Rickman. Harry and friends return for their second year at Hogwarts, where things are far more intense than before.

This tale will be darker and a bit more frightening, as the young Harry begins to come into his own as a wizard while doing battle with Draco Malfoy, the Slytherin Quidditch team, and an evil and powerful new foe.

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13

Monday

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13

Tuesday

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13

Wednesday

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13

Thursday

6:30 p.m., Daredevil, PG-13



Tuition assistance deadline

The Spouse Tuition Assistance Program deadline is Thursday. People should pick up and return applications to the education center. The Air Force Aid Society funds the STAP to assist military spouses to attend higher institutes.

Correction

Tech. Sgt. Fred Henley was misidentified on Page 13 in the Feb. 21 issue of the Jet 48. Henley is assigned to the 488th Intelligence Squadron, RAF Mildenhall.

Youth

High school registration

Students returning to Lakenheath High School for the 2003 to 2004 school year should register for school and choose classes April 18. Teachers will be available to meet with parents and students in the cafeteria.

Events

Drama festival

The Lakenheath High School Speech and Drama Festival Showcase begins at 7 p.m. March 17 in the school auditorium. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Pajama party

The Officer and Civilian Spouse's Club holds a pajama party beginning at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Eagles' Landing. The comedy team "Hack and Slash" performs and there will be prizes for best pajamas. Cost is \$10. Interested spouses should reply to Marianne Bayer by Monday at

Living in Britain

The RAF Lakenheath relocation manager and community relations advisor are available at the Beri Tree coffeeshop next to the community center in the market area at 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays to discuss all aspects of living in the United Kingdom.

Jazz ball

The African-American Heritage committee hosts a Jazz Ball from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday at the Galaxy Club, RAF Mildenhall. Tickets are \$15

Classes

FSC classes

The family support center offers the following classes this week:

Monday

11 a.m. - Mandatory pre-separation briefing

Tuesday

1:30 p.m. - Working in the United Kingdom

6 p.m. - Key Spouse meeting

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. - Living in Britain

10 a.m. - Sponsor training

6 p.m. - Bereavement support group

Thursday

10 a.m. - Delivering superior customer service

2 p.m. - Key Spouse orientation

For more information or to register, call

CHAPEL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Catholic

RAF Lakenheath

☐ Saturday Mass - 5 p.m.

☐ Sunday Mass - 9:30 a.m.

☐ Daily Mass - 11:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

☐ Communion Service - 11:30 a.m. Wednesday

RAF Feltwell

☐ Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.

Protestant

(All Protestant services held on Sundays unless otherwise stated)

RAF Lakenheath

☐ Contemporary Service - 7 p.m. Friday

Gospel Service - 8 a.m.

☐ Protestant Service - 11 a.m.

☐ Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

RAF Feltwell

☐ Protestant Service - 10 a.m.

☐ Sunday School - 8:45 a.m.

Denominational Services

☐ Jewish - Events at RAF

Mildenhall chapel:

Sabbath Services are at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month. For



Photo by Senior Airman Lynne Neveu

Linking up new friends

(From left) Diane Kittle meets with Muge Delamater, Debbie Mechling and Candi Dierenfield while attending the Monday Heart Link briefing to welcome new spouses. For more information about Heart Link